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MAY 23 2005

REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number | 09/978,191 |
| Filing Date | OCTOBER 15, 2001 |
| First Named Inventor | AUDREY GODDARD |
| Group Art Unit | 1646 |
| Examiner Name | O'HARA, EILEEN B. |
| Attorney Docket Number | 39780-2630 P1C4 |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. s 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.**
 - a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
 - iii. Other
 - b. **Enclosed**
 - i. **Amendment/Reply (PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT – 31 pages)**
 - ii. **Affidavit(s)/Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 With Exhibit A (43 pages)**
 - iii. **Information Disclosure Statement With Form PTO-1449 (3 pages); 4 References**
 - iv. **Other: Postcard.**
2. **Miscellaneous**
 - a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(l) required)
 - b. Other
3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
 - a. **The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees of \$790.00, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 08-1641 (Docket No. 39780-2630 P1C4)**
 - i. **RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) (\$790.00)**
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. Other
 - b. Check in the amount of \$ enclosed
 - c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Name (Print/Type) | ANNA L. BARRY | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 51,436 |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|--------|

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|-----------|--|------|--------------|
| Signature | | Date | MAY 23, 2005 |
|-----------|--|------|--------------|

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post office to Addresses" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated below and addressed to: MAIL STOP RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on this date: MAY 23, 2005

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------|-------|--------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | C. FONG | Date: | MAY 23, 2005 |
|-------------------|---------|-------|--------------|

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|-----------|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| Signature | | Express Mail Label: | EL 993 635 649 US |
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Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop ___, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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